

**NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
LYNDON B. JOHNSON SPACE CENTER**

**JUSTIFICATION FOR OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION (JOFOC)
PURSUANT TO TITLE 10 U.S.C. 2304 (c) (1) and
Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.302-1 (a)(2)(iii)**

WB-57 Special Capabilities Support and Engineering Services Contract

1. This document is a justification for other than full and open competition prepared by the NASA, Johnson Space Center (JSC).

2. The nature and/or description of the action being approved: This justification provides the rationale for contracting by other than full and open competition for the acquisition of WB-57F Accent Video Experiment (WAVE) Sensor Support from the Southern Research Institute (SRI).

The specific requirement is to increase the maximum not-to-exceed (NTE) value of the current contract by \$9 million. This increase in value is based on the WB-57 Program Office's increased requirement for services in support of WAVE/Airborne Imaging and Recording System (AIRS) and support services for research, development, integration, analysis, assessment, test, maintenance, repair, and evaluation of sensor systems.

3. Description of the supplies or services required (including the estimated value): This procurement provides direct support to the WB-57 Program Office for the WAVE/AIRS. The required services support the two WB-57 aircraft located at Ellington Field. The WB-57 is a mid-wing, long-range aircraft capable of operation for extended periods from sea level to altitudes well in excess of 60,000 feet.

The support includes engineering, fabrication, program management, and support services for research, development, integration, analysis, assessment, test, maintenance, repair, and evaluation of sensor systems in support of NASA's aircraft programs including the WB-57 aircraft. Tasks performed under this contract include technology development, systems acquisition, mission planning, operations, and product support for sensors, systems, and platforms.

First developed for Space Shuttle launch imagery, the uses of the WAVE/AIRS system are many and varied, including serving as a development testbed for new technologies such as ultra low light imagery, hyper-spectral imagery, and gimballed microwave atmospheric sensors. The WAVE/AIRS functionality is limited only by the physical limitations of size, weight, and power imposed by its integration to the WB-57 aircraft. The system's capabilities include high definition image tracking in flight, predicting the track of an object such as a launch vehicle, and GPS tracking.

SRI developed the WAVE/AIRS hardware and software used in support of these sensors, systems, and platforms.

This hardware and software requires system engineering for sensor development, mission planning and data production and processing of which SRI has been the sole provider. In addition, the hardware associated with these sensors and systems contains software and algorithms that were developed solely by, and are proprietary to SRI. Because the software is constantly changing due to operational requirements, SRI has developed procedures and tools used to operate the software. This unique expertise is critical to the integrity of the software, and subsequently, to mission success. For this reason, SRI is considered the only source with the specialized knowledge and data rights necessary to fulfill the Government's requirements.

NASA/JSC intends to increase the maximum NTE value of the current contract by \$9 million. The current contract has a maximum NTE amount for Indefinite-Delivery Indefinite-Quantity (IDIQ) services ordered of \$9 million and consists of a 2-year basic and three 1-year option periods. This action will increase the maximum NTE amount for IDIQ services ordered by \$9 million to \$18 million. The increase in value is based on the WB-57 Program Office's increased requirement for services in support of the WAVE/AIRS. Most of the initial \$9 million is currently obligated in support of this reimbursable mission. An increase of \$9 million was determined by the WB-57 Project Office to be sufficient to meet the new projections for demand while being a manageable increase for SRI.

4. Statutory authority permitting other than full and open competition: The statutory authority permitting other than full and open competition is 10 U.S.C. 2304(c)(1), as contemplated by the provisions of FAR 6.302-1 (a)(2)(iii), the supplies and services required are unique and are available from only one source, SRI. The uninterrupted continuation of these services is critical to the success of the WB-57 WAVE/AIRS Mission. Award to any other source would result in unacceptable delays in fulfilling the Agency's requirements.

5. A demonstration that the proposed contractor's unique qualifications or the nature of the acquisition requires use of the authority cited: NASA/JSC Aircraft Operations Division, WB-57 Program Office has a demonstrated need for WAVE/AIRS sensor support to meet NASA mission obligations. SRI developed the WAVE/AIRS sensors and has maintained them since 2003.

The WAVE/AIRS turret and gimbal contain algorithms and software that are proprietary to SRI. This software was developed at private expense, and may not be transferred or duplicated without the written consent of SRI. NASA does not own the rights to the software. Airborne missions require access to and modification of the proprietary software. Duplication of this capability, if even possible, would result in substantial cost to the Government and result in unacceptable delays in fulfilling the current WB-57 Program mission requirements and obligations.

6. Description of the efforts made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as practicable: A synopsis was posted on March 10, 2010, prior to award of the original contract, in an attempt to identify possible sources to fulfill the requirements of the WB-57 Special Capabilities Support and Engineering Services Contract. Only one inquiry was received. That potential source, Invocon, acknowledged that it could not satisfy the procurement requirements and withdrew any further interest.

A synopsis was posted on August 11, 2011, for this action to increase the maximum NTE amount for IDIQ services ordered under the WB-57 Special Capabilities Support and Engineering Services Contract. The results of this synopsis are discussed in paragraph 10 below.

7. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the anticipated cost to the Government will be fair and reasonable: There are no changes anticipated to the rates for this contract, which were determined to be fair and reasonable at contract award. Upon approval of this justification, a bilateral modification will be issued to increase the maximum NTE amount for IDIQ services ordered.

8. Description of the market survey conducted and the results, or a statement of the reasons a market survey was not conducted: In accordance with FAR Part 10, a market survey was accomplished using the following market research techniques:

- a. Personal knowledge of the market availability in procuring services of this type.
- b. Contact with other knowledgeable people in government, including experts with historical knowledge of the program and its evolving requirements.
- c. Review of Government and commercial database for relevant information, including the General Services Administration's Advantage web site.
- d. Publication of a synopsis on August 11, 2011.
- e. Review of Government and commercial database including the Dynamic Small Business Search Database.
- f. Review of internet resources for relevant information.

None of the market research listed above revealed any evidence that other companies exist that could perform the requirements of the statement of work.

9. Other facts supporting the use of other than full and open competition, such as: SRI has been developing and refining the WAVE/AIRS for the last 7 years. The technical and operational expertise for this system resides solely at SRI. SRI has over 15,000 engineer development hours logged on the WAVE sensor. The training necessary to duplicate this effort would also result in a substantial duplication of cost to the Government that would not be recovered through competition. Since the software and associated technical documentation necessary to support WAVE/AIRS is proprietary to SRI, the Government is required to contract with them as a sole source for this service and as the logical follow-on to the existing contract.

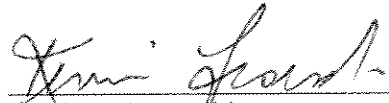
10. A listing of sources, if any, which expressed in writing an interest in the acquisition: Invocon contacted and spoke with the technical representative in response to the synopsis for the original contract. After learning more about the WAVE/AIRS sensor, the company withdrew their interest in the program.

Only one party, BOBWORK'S LLC, listed themselves as an interested vendor in response to the synopsis posted on August 11, 2011, for this action to increase the maximum NTE amount for IDIQ services ordered under this contract. The Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) contacted Mr. Chris Stuckey at BOBWORK'S LLC on August 22, 2011, to discuss their capabilities with regard to this requirement.

In response to this discussion, Mr. Stuckey e-mailed the COTR stating that BOBWORK'S LLC does not intend to provide services for this effort. No other responses to this synopsis were received.

11. A statement of the actions, if any, the Agency may take to remove or overcome any barriers to competition before any subsequent acquisition for the supplies or services required: NASA will continue to monitor the market for companies that have developed technologies that can meet the requirements of this program. The WB-57 Program will continue to look for ways to reduce barriers to competition for future procurements.

Technical Officer: I certify that the supporting data presented in this justification are accurate and complete.




Kevin J. Lesenski

Contracting Officer's Technical Representative

8/23/2011
Date

Contracting Officer: I hereby determine that the anticipated cost to the Government will be fair and reasonable and certify that this justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.



Scott A. Stephens
Contracting Officer

8/23/11
Date

CONCURRENCE:



Debra L. Johnson
Director, Office of Procurement

9/9/11
Date

APPROVED:



Ellen Ochoa
JSC Competition Advocate

9/15/11
Date